the office referred to, it is just as suitable as the lower secondary school. I do not think there is any very great hardship.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—May I know whether in view of the comparatively low cost, these five offices could not be, with advantage, housed in public buildings where there is enough of space? Now the Munsiff's court and the Treasury office alone are located there. The land can be acquired at cheap rates.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—The Hon'ble member's suggestion will be considered.

Guest House work—Ernakulam—progress of.

163. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi).*—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

how far the work of the Guest House at Ernakulam has progressed;

the total amount spent till now?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—The plans are under preparation and the acquisition proceedings are in progress.

Rs. 150—12—0.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Nellayi).*—Were not lands acquired?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon (*Diwan Peishkar.*)—The awards have been sent up for the acceptance of the Government.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—May I know whether at the time of the discussion of a cut motion to omit the amount for Guest House it was not stated by the Hon'ble Member for Engineering that the whole of Rs. 1 lakh has already been spent?

Mr. K. Achyutha Menon (*Diwan Peishkar*).—It will be spent before the 32nd.

Aroor Bridge—construction of.

164. Mr. Shabdai S. Koder *(Jews Special)*—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether their attention has been drawn to the statement which appeared in the Madras papers that the construction

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of the Aroor bridge had to be given up due to the lack of support from the Cochin Government;

(b) if the answer is in the affirmative may I know the reasons for refusing support?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer).*—(a) Yes.

(b) Owing to the high estimated cost of construction of the bridge and the existence of cheap and efficient water ways for goods traffic, Government feel that the expenditure might be put off, especially since there are other decidedly more important items of work on communications in the State to be attended to.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder *(Jews Special).*—May I know what will be the approximate cost to construct this bridge?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—Rs. 5½ lakhs.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder *(Jews Special).*—What will be our share?

Mr. President.—Rs. 1½ lakhs.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder *(Jews Special).*—Has the Government received any representation from the Indian Chamber of Commerce?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—Yes.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder *(Jews Special).*—Am I to take it that the Government has not given it up?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—Government find it impossible to spend so much money considering the usefulness of the bridge.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri)*—With reference to answer to sub-division (b) what about the passenger traffic? Whether the construction of this bridge connecting Travancore will not give us greater facilities for passenger traffic with no risk of the kind that happens in waterways? Kumaran Asan passed away like that.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—There are already under consideration certain economic

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proposals for the transport of passengers as well and there is correspondence already going on in that matter with the Travancore Government.

Mr. K. T. Mathew *(Kunnamkulam).*—What is that proposal?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—To have steam launches.

Mr. M. V. Cherian *(Mattancheri South).*—Is there not a toll near that Aroor river?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar).*—Yes.

Mr. M. V. Cherian *(Mattancheri South).*—What is the toll collection yearly?

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar).*—The whole taluk is auctioned, there is no separate auction for this.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—May I know how far you have progressed with the proposal to have steam launches?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—The Travancore Government have asked for our opinion in the matter and the matter is under consideration.

Mr. P. Kumarn Ezhuthassan *(Wadakkancheri).*—How long ago is it?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government).*—Very recently, within a month.

School Building—Kozhipara—construction of.

165. **Mr. A. Eachara Menon** *(Chittur Rural).*—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(1) whether their attention has been invited at any time before this regarding the dangerous state of the school building at Kozhipara;

(2) if so, on how many occasions and by whom;

(3) whether they have estimated the cost of the repair;

(4) if so, what is the amount of the estimate;

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